

Ben Sanchez

PA STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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1175 Old York Road | Abington, PA 19001 | (215) 517-6800



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Proposing and passing legislation is a lengthy process that takes time and commitment to what you believe will make Pennsylvania laws stronger and better. It is humbling to introduce legislation that will greatly impact many in our commonwealth and I am proud to say that three of my bills (below) recently passed the House with bipartisan support and await consideration in the Senate. To learn about all of my proposed legislation, visit my website at www.repbensanchez.com and go to "Bills I've Introduced" under the News tab.



<p>House Bill 2473</p>  <p>Ensuring Timely Election Results</p> <p>The will of Pennsylvania voters transcends political divisions, and we need to come together across the aisle to uphold our democracy.</p>  <p>Aligning Pennsylvania's state election code with the federal Electoral Count Reform Act would ensure timely and accurate presidential election results.</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSORS REPRESENTATIVE Ben Sanchez REPRESENTATIVE Seth Grove</p>	<p>House Bill 350</p>  <p>Modernizing and Securing Parental Rights</p> <p>Families come in all different shapes and sizes, and each child deserves the same legal rights and support.</p> <p>Parents in our commonwealth who use assisted reproductive services lack a clear legal path to secure ties with their children. Our bill ensures equal protections and rights for all children and parents, regardless of the story of their birth.</p>  <p>PRIMARY SPONSORS Ben Sanchez Dan Miller</p>	<p>House Bill 1021</p>  <p>Increasing Accessibility to Naloxone</p> <p>Encouraging Naloxone access and protecting those fighting substance use disorder.</p> <p>Pennsylvanians can be denied life insurance if they possess Naloxone, discouraging access to this life-saving opioid reversal agent. Our bill aims to rectify this by prohibiting this exclusionary practice.</p>  <p>PRIMARY SPONSORS REPRESENTATIVE Ben Sanchez REPRESENTATIVE Gina Curry</p>
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BIPARTISAN BUDGET COMPLETED

In early July, the legislature passed and Gov. Shapiro signed the state's annual budget into law. I voted in favor of this budget because it's a fair and balanced plan that prioritizes Pennsylvanians in every stage of life. We invested a historic \$1.3 billion in education with a 7.2% increase in special education, increased funding for students' mental health and physical safety, and provided money for menstrual hygiene products in school restrooms to help students focus on learning.

Further, this spending plan makes investments supporting:

- **Pennsylvania seniors**, by allotting for rate increases in Medicaid for nursing homes and home- and community-based services.
- **Servicemembers**, by allocating an additional \$14 million to the state Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs to provide services for veterans and their families.
- **Those living with intellectual disabilities**, by increasing the Community Waiver program by \$261 million.
- **Public transit**, by delivering a \$53 million boost to SEPTA.
- **Working parents**, by allotting an extra \$26.2 million in subsidized child care services and creating an employer child care tax credit – incentivizing Pennsylvania businesses to help cover their employees' child care costs.
- **Student teachers**, by providing \$20 million for stipends.
- **Community revitalization efforts**, by launching the \$20 million Main Street Matters program, under the Department of Community and Economic Development, which will provide grants to enhance local economies.



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I voted in favor of the 2024-25 budget namely because **it helps level the playing field for all Pennsylvania students.** The spending plan delivers a **historic \$1.3 billion investment into Pennsylvania's schools**, fulfilling our constitutional obligation to provide every child with a quality education regardless of their zip code. This is a valuable investment into the future of our commonwealth.

REPRESENTATIVE
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PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE EXTENDED

To ensure as many Pennsylvanians receive the relief they are entitled to, the deadline for older adults and Pennsylvanians with disabilities to apply for rebates on rent and property taxes paid in 2023 has been extended to December 31.

This program provides a rebate ranging from \$380 to \$1,000 to eligible older adults and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The maximum household income is increased from previous years to \$45,000 for tax year 2023. Only half of the accrued Social Security dispersals count toward the \$45,000 cap. Application booklets are available at my office. We also offer in-person assistance in submitting the application; please call my office at (215) 517-6800 to set up an appointment.



Property Tax / Rent Rebate 2024 Program Expansion

MORE people eligible, **MORE** money back!

Homeowner & Renter Income	Max Rebate
Up to \$8K	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$460
Up to \$45K	\$380

Deadline extended to December 31, 2024

HOW MY OFFICE CAN HELP

- Voter registration, absentee and mail-in ballot applications
- SEPTA Senior Key cards
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate applications or questions
- Birth and death certificates
- PACE prescription-drug cards for senior citizens
- Car registrations, special tags, disability parking placards, titles, and driver's license applications
- Questions about PennDOT
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Questions about the state lottery
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Or any other state-related issues!



REPRESENTATIVES
MELISSA CERRATO
&
BEN SANCHEZ
INTRODUCE:

MOBILE OFFICE HOURS

at the
Upper Dublin Public Library

Every Thursday from 9:30am - 12pm

Don't forget, all of these services are also available on a weekly basis at the Upper Dublin Library.

DISCUSSING GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION FROM THE WHITE HOUSE TO THE DISTRICT

It was an honor to be invited to the White House for the Safer States Legislative Convening. I was one of 60 legislators from across 30 states invited to participate in a discussion on gun safety policy accomplishments from the 2024 legislative session and to support each other's work ahead in advancing the Safer States Agenda next session. I am extremely humbled to be recognized by our federal government as a state legislative leader on gun violence prevention. It was truly an honor for President Biden and the White House staff to include me in this important conversation. It was a successful day connecting with my peers and colleagues from across the country and left me hopeful in our current and future efforts.



Whether I'm here in the district, Harrisburg, or DC, I'm always willing to have tough conversations on gun violence. Earlier this year I was honored to participate in Upper Dublin Lutheran Church and Or Hadash's Interfaith Gun Violence Prevention Forum.



MY COMMITMENT TO LGBTQ+ PENNSYLVANIANS

It's my honor to advocate for equitable and inclusive policies that make Pennsylvania a better and more welcoming place for all.

In addition to introducing my LGBTQ+ Panic Defense legislation (HB637), I am committed to streamlining the legal name change process: I introduced three bills, with my co-sponsors, to simplify and support the legal name change process for Pennsylvanians – primarily, but not limited to, benefiting transgender, non-binary, and gender-expansive individuals.

- House Bill 610 would eliminate the costly and archaic requirement of publishing name change notifications in newspapers and seeks to seal court records to better protect privacy.
- House Bill 638 proposes the establishment of a grant program to provide financial support to organizations, counties, and local governments that assist transgender people with the legal name change process.
- House Bill 609 works to remove sex from birth certificates, a move recommended by the American Medical Association. Doing this would prevent many problems transgender individuals face by having an incorrect gender marker on this foundational document.

Together, these bills address the systemic challenges faced by transgender Pennsylvanians, ensuring they have access to the necessary support and documentation to live authentically without undue hardship.



House Bill 637


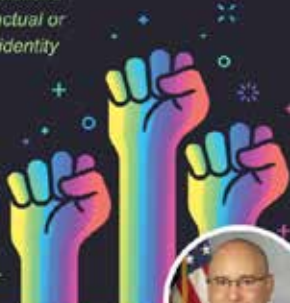
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Prohibition of the LGBTQ+ Panic Defense

Close a criminal justice loophole that allows assailants to avoid sentencing or convictions by blaming their action on a victim's actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression.

Pennsylvania's justice system should protect every resident

PRIMARY SPONSOR
Rep. Sanchez





State Representative
BEN SANCHEZ

1175 Old York Road
Abington, PA 19001

lpo.kg.0824

SAVE THE DATES!

 **Representative Ben Sanchez** Invites you to a




COMMUNITY SHREDDING EVENT

PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY AND HAVE PERSONAL DOCUMENTS SHREDDED

SATURDAY, September 28, 2024

9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

PARKING LOT AT CORNER OF OLD YORK ROAD AND BRENTWOOD AVENUE (3 BLOCKS NORTH OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE)

We will also be collecting non-perishable donations for The Family Promise Food Pantry at the event. Feel free to bring some with you when you come!

This is a FREE event for the residents of the 153rd district!

Paper shredding only - Please no businesses

For more information, call Rep. Sanchez's office at 215-517-6800



State Representative Ben Sanchez, in partnership with PSU Abington, invites you to their

LGBTQ+

Community Resource Fair

Back by popular demand! Please join Representative Ben Sanchez and Penn State Abington as they host organizations and businesses from the greater Philadelphia area for a FREE community event open to the public. There will be resources, information and area legislators available to help with your questions. Allies welcome! We hope to see you there!

Saturday October 19, 2024
1pm - 4pm

 **PennState Abington** | 1600 Woodland Road (Lares Building) Abington, PA 19001

For more information, contact Rep. Sanchez's District Office at (215) 517-6800

Representatives Melissa Cerrato, Liz Hanbridge and Ben Sanchez in partnership with the Ambler YMCA present

A FAMILY RESOURCE FAIR

AND...



TRUNK OR TREAT

Food trucks, fun, and helpful community resources!

Saturday, October 26
2pm - 4pm
Costumes welcome!

 **@ the Ambler YMCA**
1325 McKean Road, Ambler, PA